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I believe that allowing Canadian Amateurs to align with the US on use of the designated 5M frequencies for more reliable communications locally and province wide is very necessary.

During The Slave Lake Fires last year when the Alberta Emergency Management Agency called upon the Amateur Radio Emergency Service to provide back up communications for the area during a time when the telephone central office and all cell sites in the area were gravely threatened, they would be the most comfortable knowing we had all available advantages to provide the best possible service at the time.

Canada also needs the advantage of available frequencies not allocated and totally overcome with traffic from the much larger populations of Amateurs from the United States, which would allow us some dependability when required.

Sincerely, Garry Jacobs, VE6CIA, Certified Emergency Coordinator, RAC Alberta  
Section Manager, Industry Canada Accredited Examiner.